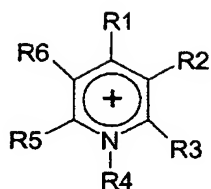
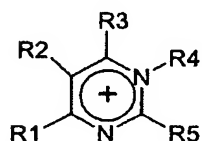


**What is claimed is:**

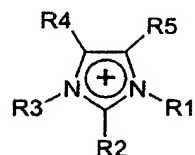
1. A polymer composition which comprises at least one at least  
5        semicrystalline polymer having no ionic groups and comprises at  
      least one compound with plasticizing properties,  
      and which  
      comprises 0.1 to 30% by weight of ionic liquid as plasticizer.
2. The polymer composition as claimed in claim 1,  
10        which  
      comprises from 0.5 to 25% by weight of ionic liquid.
3. The polymer composition as claimed in claim 1 or 2,  
15        which  
      comprises at least one thermoplastically processable polymer  
      selected from the group of the (co)polyamides, (co)polyesters,  
      polyurethanes, polyphenylene ethers, polyolefins, (co)polyether-  
      amides, polyaramides, polyether(ether)ketones, and  
      polyetheresteramides.  
20
4. The polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 3,  
      which  
      comprises at least one crosslinked, or at least one crosslinkable,  
      polymer selected from the group of the (co)polyamides,  
25        (co)polyesters, polyurethanes, and polyphenylene ethers.
5. The polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 4,  
      wherein  
      the polymer is linear or branched.  
30
6. The polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 5,  
      which  
      comprises at least one polymer mixture and/or at least one polymer  
      blend.  
35
7. The polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 6,  
      wherein  
      the ionic liquid is a salt having a cation of the following structures



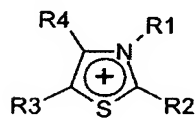
1



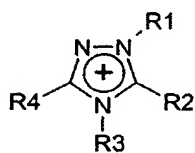
3



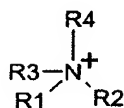
5



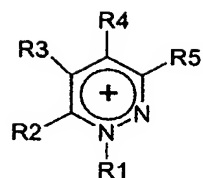
7



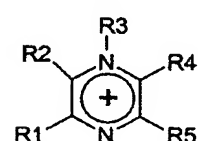
9



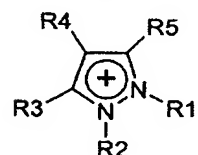
11



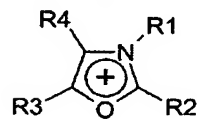
2



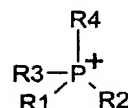
4



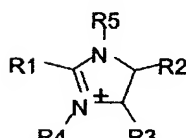
6



8



10



12

where R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, and R6 are identical or different and are hydrogen, a linear or branched aliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, a cycloaliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 5 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon radical having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an alkylaryl radical having from 7 to 40 carbon atoms, a linear or branched aliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 2 to 20 carbon atoms and having interruption by one or more heteroatoms (oxygen, NH, NCH<sub>3</sub>), or are a linear or branched aliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 2 to 20 carbon atoms and having interruption by one or more functionalities

- selected from the group -O-C(O)-, -(O)C-O-, NH-C(O)-, -(O)C-NH-, -(CH<sub>3</sub>)N-C(O)-, -(O)C-N(CH<sub>3</sub>)-, -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-O-, -O-S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-NH-, -NH-S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-N(CH<sub>3</sub>)-, -N(CH<sub>3</sub>)-S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, or are a linear or branched aliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, terminally functionalized by -OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, or -N(H)CH<sub>3</sub>, or are a polyether of formula -(R<sup>7</sup>-O)<sub>n</sub>-R<sup>8</sup> having block or random structure, where R<sup>7</sup> is a linear or branched hydrocarbon radical having from 2 to 4 carbon atoms, n = from 1 to 30, and R<sup>8</sup> is hydrogen, a linear or branched aliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, a cycloaliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 5 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon radical having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an alkylaryl radical having from 7 to 40 carbon atoms, or a -C(O)-R<sup>9</sup> radical, where R<sup>9</sup> is a linear or branched aliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, a cycloaliphatic hydrocarbon radical having from 5 to 30 carbon atoms, an aromatic hydrocarbon radical having from 6 to 30 carbon atoms, an alkylaryl radical having from 7 to 40 carbon atoms; and having an anion selected from the group consisting of halide, phosphate, halophosphates, alkylated phosphates, nitrate, sulfate, hydrogensulfate, alkyl sulfates, aryl sulfates, perfluorinated alkyl sulfates, perfluorinated aryl sulfates, sulfonate, alkylsulfonates, arylsulfonates, perfluorinated alkyl- and arylsulfonates, perchlorate, tetrachloroaluminate, tetrafluoroborate, alkylated borates, tosylate, saccharinate, alkyl carboxylates, and bis(perfluoroalkylsulfonyl)amide anions; or is a mixture of two or more of these salts.
8. The polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 7, wherein
- the ionic liquid contains a halogen-free anion selected from the group consisting of phosphate, alkyl phosphates, nitrate, sulfate, alkyl sulfates, aryl sulfates, sulfonate, alkylsulfonates, arylsulfonates, alkyl borates, tosylate, saccharinate, and alkyl carboxylates.
9. The polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 8, wherein
- the ionic liquid of the polymer composition contains various anions.

10. The polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 9,  
which  
has microbicidal properties.
- 5 11. The polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to  
10,  
which  
has antistatic properties.
- 10 12. The polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to  
11,  
which  
has a glass transition temperature, measured by differential  
scanning calorimetry (DSC), which is lower by up to 18K than that of  
15 a polymer comprising no ionic liquid.
13. A process for preparing a polymer composition which comprises at  
least one polymer having no ionic groups and comprises at least  
one compound with plasticizing properties, where the polymer  
20 composition comprises from 0.1 to 30% by weight of ionic liquid as  
plasticizer,  
which comprises  
first bringing an ionic liquid into contact with a polymeric component  
of the polymer composition, and then dispersing the ionic liquid in  
25 the polymer composition.
14. The process as claimed in claim 13,  
wherein  
a polymer composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 12 is  
30 prepared.
15. The process as claimed in claim 13 or 14,  
wherein  
the dispersion of the ionic liquid in the polymer composition takes  
35 place by means of a mixing process.
16. The process as claimed in at least one of claims 13 to 15,  
wherein

the ionic liquid is brought into contact with, and thoroughly mixed with, a molten phase of the polymeric component.

- 5      17.    The process as claimed in claim 16,  
         wherein  
         the mixing of the components of the polymer composition is carried  
         out in a single- or twin-screw kneader, the polymeric component  
         being molten.
- 10     18.    The process as claimed in at least one of claims 13 to 15,  
         wherein  
         the ionic liquid is brought into contact with a solid phase of the  
         polymeric component, and thoroughly mixed after melting.
- 15     19.    The process as claimed in claim 13 or 14,  
         wherein  
         the dispersion of the ionic liquid in the polymer composition takes  
         place by means of diffusion.
- 20     20.    The process as claimed in claim 19,  
         wherein  
         the preparation takes place by means of impregnation of polymer  
         powders by an ionic liquid.
- 25     21.    The process as claimed in at least one of claims 13 to 15,  
         wherein  
         use is made of at least one polymer and/or one ionic liquid dissolved  
         in a solvent.
- 30     22.    The process as claimed in claim 21,  
         wherein  
         the solvent is removed by a thermal separation process from a  
         precursor of the polymer composition.
- 35     23.    The process as claimed in claim 21,  
         wherein  
         the solvent is removed from a precursor of the polymer composition  
         by precipitation of the polymer composition.

24. The use of a polymer composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 12, or of a polymer composition prepared by a process as claimed in any of claims 13 to 23, as hot-melt adhesive, adhesion promoter, binder, filler material, packaging material, compatibilizer for preparing polymer blends, agent modifying viscosity and/or solubility in polymer mixtures or polymer compositions, or for the production of unsupported films, supported films, coatings, membranes, or moldings, where shaping takes place by means of injection molding, extrusion, or blow molding.
25. A hot-melt adhesive comprising a polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 12, or comprising a polymer composition prepared by a process as claimed in any of claims 13 to 23.
26. A binder comprising a polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 12, or comprising a polymer composition prepared by a process as claimed in any of claims 13 to 23.
27. A sports product comprising a polymer composition as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 12, or comprising a polymer composition prepared by a process as claimed in any of claims 13 to 23.